3510-08

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Evaluation of National Estuarine Research Reserve

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office for Coastal

Management, National Ocean Service, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to evaluate and notice of availability of final findings.

SUMMARY: The NOAA Office for Coastal Management (OCM) announces its intent to evaluate the performance of the Guana Tolomato Matanzas (GTM) National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The National Estuarine Research Reserve evaluation will be conducted pursuant to sections 312 and 315 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) and regulations at 15 CFR part 921, subpart E and part 923, subpart L. Evaluation of a National Estuarine Research Reserve requires findings concerning the extent to which a state has met the national objectives, adhered to its Reserve final management plan approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance awards funded under the CZMA.

The evaluation will include a public meeting, consideration of written and oral public comments and consultations with interested Federal, state, and local agencies and members of the public. When the evaluation is completed, OCM will place a notice in the <u>Federal Register</u>

announcing the availability of the Final Evaluation Findings. Notice is hereby given of the date,

local time, and location of the public meeting.

DATES: The GTM National Estuarine Research Reserve public meeting will be held

Wednesday, August 26, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the GTM NERR Environmental Education Center

Auditorium, 505 Guana River Road, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the reserve's most recent performance report, as well as OCM's

evaluation notification letter to the state, are available upon request from OCM. Written

comments from interested parties regarding these programs are encouraged and will be accepted

until September 4, 2015. Please direct written comments to Carrie Hall, Evaluator, Planning and

Performance Measurement Program, Office for Coastal Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-

West Highway, 11th Floor, N/OCM1, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, or Carrie.Hall@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hall, Evaluator, Planning and

Performance Measurement Program, Office for Coastal Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-

West Highway, 11th Floor, N/OCM1, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, or *Carrie.Hall@noaa.gov*.

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<u>Dated: July 2, 2015</u>

Christopher C. Cartwright, Associate Assistant Administrator for Management and CFO/CAO, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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